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[Received by the International Bureau on 16 May 2005 (16.05.05): original claims 1-12 replaced by amended claims 1-11 (3 pages)]

- In an instrument of defence wherein the handle portion for an integral shaft portion has a free end and a cavity with a mouth opening outwardly from the free end thereof for the reception of a spray dispensing unit including a spray head mechanism with a depending fluid reservoir, the cavity and reservoir having an axis of alignment and mating configuration and extent and of a tolerance such that when aligned and mated under a press fit sufficient frictional gripping engagement is established therebetween so as to anchor same against separation when transported or in combat and with the spray head mechanism sufficiently exposed at the cavity mouth and at the ready for actuation of same on demand.
- 2. In an instrument of defence, a handle portion for an integral shaft portion, the handle portion having a free end and a cavity with a mouth opening outwardly from the free end thereof for the reception of a spray dispensing unit including a spray head mechanism with a discharge orifice on one side, a displaceable spring-biased operating lever disposed toward the other side and with a depending fluid reservoir, the cavity and reservoir having an axis of alignment and a mating configuration and extent and of a tolerance such that when aligned and mated under a press fit sufficient frictional gripping engagement is established therebetween so as to anchor same against separation and with the spray head mechanism disposed within the cavity mouth, the cavity mouth presenting a surrounding edge formation with a suitable contour exposing the discharge orifice on one side and with a slot bordered by a ledge formation exposing the displaceable spring-biased

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operating lever on the other side for displacement within the slot to dispense fluid spray and for displacement to the ledge formation to secure same against accidental discharge.

- 3. An instrument according to Claims 1 or 2 wherein said cavity mouth of said handle portion opens outwardly in spaced apart relation to one end of said shaft portion.
- 4. An instrument according to Claims 1 or 2 wherein said handle portion is disposed at an obtuse angle to said shaft portion.
- 5. An instrument according to Claims 1 or 2 wherein said cavity mouth of said handle portion opens outwardly intermediately of the extent of said shaft portion and in spaced apart relation thereto.
- 6. An instrument according to Claims 1 or 2 wherein said handle portion is disposed at substantially right angles to said shaft portion and towards one end.
- 7. An instrument according to Claims 1 to 6 inclusive wherein the girth of said handle portion exceeds that of said shaft portion.
- 8. An instrument according to Claims 1 or 2 wherein said handle portion and said shaft portion have the configuration of a truncheon.

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9. An instrument according to Claims 1 or 2 wherein said handle portion and said shaft portion have the configuration of a baton.

- 10. An instrument according to Claims 1 or 2 wherein said handle portion and said shaft portion have the configuration of a walking cane.
- An instrument according to Claims 1 to 10 inclusive wherein said shaft portion is suitably apertured for reception of a tie or thong for supporting same for carriage or storage.